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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEIn re patent application of:
Liu et al.

Application Serial No. 10/617,309

Filed July 10, 2003

SPINAL IMPLANT METHOD AND
CUTTING TOOL PREPARATION
ACCESSORY FOR MOUNTING THE
IMPLANT) Before the Examiner
) Thomas C. Barrett

) Group Art Unit 3738

) Ref. No. MSDI-201/ PC273.19

) January 26, 2006

*Via Facsimile Transmission: 571-273-8300***AMENDMENT AFTER NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE UNDER 37 CFR 1.312**Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please enter and consider the following amendments and remarks in the subject application. A Request for Continued Examination submitted under 37 CFR §1.114 is also being filed concurrently herewith, along with the requisite filing fee of \$790.00 under 37 CFR 1.17(e). Additionally, please provide any extensions of time necessary and charge any additional fees which may be necessary to Deposit Account No. 12-2424, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being
facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent
and Trademark Office at 571-273-8300 on:

January 26, 2006

Date of Transmission

Brad A. Schepers

Name of Registered Representative

Signature

January 26, 2006

Date of Signature

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Claims 28 and 29 were allowed in a Notice of Allowance mailed on October 26, 2005. Upon reviewing the allowed claims, the Applicant has discovered informalities associated with independent claim 28 and requests entry of the subject amendment under 37 CFR 1.312 to address these informalities.

Amendment Under 37 CFR 1.312
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